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Susan Fortunato ink analysis report on the ink found in Phyllis Moretti's book containing the "confession" note

Susan L. Fortunato

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REPORT

United States Secret Service
Office of Investigations
Forensic Services Division
Questioned Document Branch



January 11, 2000

To: Cuyahoga County Prosecutor

Subject: Dr. Sam Sheppard

Case No.: 175-865-41883

Type of Examination: Ink Analysis

Reference is made to your request, dated December 14, 1999, for the analysis of entries in a book.

EXHIBIT:

Q1 One (1) paperback book entitled "ENDURE AND CONQUER" bearing an entry "to Phyllis..."

REQUEST:

Examine the writing ink(s) found within the book to determine the first date(s) of commercial availability.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

Physical and chemical examinations were conducted on the ink used to produce the entries found within Exhibit Q1. The entry "Yes" appearing on the first page and the entry beginning "to Phyllis..." on the following pages were produced with the same blue ballpoint ink formulation. This ink was compared to the United States Secret Service International Ink Collection. The ink matches an ink formulation that was first commercially available on May 8, 1961.

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE:

The Exhibit is being returned by Federal Express.

Examined by:

Susan L. Fortunato
Senior Document Analyst

Approved:

Robert L. Byers
Special Agent in Charge

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